

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for making espresso coffee comprising a support frame ~~(2)~~, a vertically mounted open-topped cylinder ~~(3)~~ mounted on the support frame, the frame and the cylinder defining a space below the cylinder adapted to receive a block of compressed ground coffee and below which a cup to receive ~~the~~ coffee may be inserted, means for locating a quantity of ground coffee adjacent ~~the~~ a base of the cylinder, ~~a quantity of ground coffee~~, a piston adapted to fit in the cylinder, and an actuation means linked to the piston enabling the piston to be moved up and down in the cylinder by the actuation means, wherein associated with the piston is a one-way valve mechanism for enabling water to pass from above to below ~~the~~ a head ~~(22)~~ of the piston as the piston is raised within the cylinder by the actuation means.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to Claim 1 wherein the actuation means are a pair of levers ~~(6, 7)~~ pivoted to the frame and pivotally linked to the piston.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to Claim 2 wherein the pair of levers ~~(6, 7)~~ are mounted 180° apart relative to ~~the~~ an axis of the cylinder ~~(3)~~ and movable from an elevated

position in which the piston is located at or near ~~the~~ a top of the cylinder to a lowered position in which the piston abuts the base of the cylinder.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to Claim 2 or 3 wherein ~~the~~ linkage ~~(16, 29, 30)~~ between the piston and the pair of levers ~~(6, 7)~~ is easily and quickly dismountable so that the piston may be removed entirely from the cylinder ~~(3)~~ to enable ~~it~~ the piston to be cleaned.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to ~~any of Claims 2 to 4~~ Claim 2 or 3 wherein the pair of levers ~~(6, 7)~~ are geared together to promote even pivotal movement thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the one-way valve mechanism for enabling water to pass from above to below the head ~~(22)~~ of the piston is an axially movable seal ring ~~(40)~~ located between ~~the~~ an exterior periphery of the piston and ~~the~~ an internal cylindrical wall of the cylinder ~~(3)~~, the seal ring being held captive between a pair of axially spaced flanges ~~(41, 42)~~ on the piston, wherein the pair of axially spaced flanges include a lower flange and an upper flange, the axial spacing between the flanges exceeding ~~the~~ an axial

dimension of the seal ring, and ~~the~~ arrangement being such that when the seal ring is adjacent the lower flange ~~(41)~~ on the piston, flow channels ~~(47)~~ formed therein are open and wherein those flow channels are closed when the seal ring is adjacent the upper flange ~~(42)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to Claim 6 wherein the seal ring ~~(40)~~ is a resilient o-ring compressed between ~~the an~~ exterior of the head of the piston ~~head~~ ~~(22)~~ and ~~the an~~ interior wall of the cylinder.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 7~~ Claim 1 wherein the cylinder ~~(3)~~ is mounted in the support frame ~~(2)~~ by way of a bayonet-type fitting ~~(14)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 1 wherein the support frame ~~(2)~~ is provided with a base ~~(1)~~ containing raised formations ~~(71)~~ on ~~its~~ an upper surface such that a cup placed on the base rests on the raised formations and out of contact with the upper surface of the base.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to Claim 9 wherein the base ~~(1)~~ is provided with an external rim to contain spillage.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus for making espresso coffee according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 10~~ Claim 1 wherein the means for locating a quantity of ground coffee at the base of the cylinder comprises a standard pot adapted to contain a quantity of ~~couffee~~ coffee grounds, and, on the pot and at the base of the cylinder, interengagable means enabling the pot to be held against the base of the cylinder with the coffee grounds compressed therein.